

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02664 010406Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----071991 010412Z /70

O 010335Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0236
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2664

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR KS YO KN US
SUBJ: YUGOSLAV INITIATIVE FOR TRIPARTITE KOREA TALKS

REF: A. SEOUL 2518, B. SEOUL 2551, C. SEOUL 2603, D. SEOUL 2642

1. DURING COURSE OF A DINNER AT RESIDENCE LAST EVENING (MARCH 31) I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PRIVATELY TITO PROPOSAL FOR TRIPARTITE TALKS WITH KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON KIM YONG SHIK. AMBASSADOR KIM WAS NOT PLEASED WITH HIS GOVERNMENT'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE ON THIS MATTER, BUT INDICATED THAT ISSUE WAS NOT CLOSED AND FURTHER STUDY WAS IN PROGRESS (REF. D). I URGED HIS PERSONAL EFFORTS FOR A MORE FLEXIBLE AND POSITIVE POLICY, A POSITION WHICH HE ALREADY OBVIOUSLY SUPPORTED. HIS VIEW OF TACTICS AT THIS JUNCTURE WAS THAT THE ROKG SHOULD BE GIVEN A LITTLE TIME FOR REFLECTION AND NOT PRESSED FOR A BLANK CHECK AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE.

2. IN PARALLEL CONVERSATION AT SAME DINNER MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG YONG, WHILE STATING THAT ROKG POSITION REMAINED THAT GIVEN TO ME EARLIER, TOLD POLCOUNS CLARK THAT INTERNAL CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 02664 010406Z

STILL ACTIVE. HE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE ON AN INFORMAL BASIS, BUT URGED PROVISION OF SOME DETAILS ON U.S. THINKING REGARDING POSSIBLE TRIPARTITE MEETINGS WITHOUT SUCH DETAIL, HE SAID, DISCUSSIONS COULD ONLY COVER GROUND ALREADY WELL PLOWED.

4. COMMENT: I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT APPROACH

RECOMMENDED REF. (C) OFFERS BEST HOPE FOR PROGRESS.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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